



September 21, 2010

The Honorable Geoff Davis
U.S. House of Representatives
1108 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative Davis:

On behalf of MAG, I want to thank you for introducing H.R. 3765, the "Regulations from the Executive In Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act," a bill which would restore accountability to the federal regulatory process.

Recent actions by executive branch agencies have brought increased attention to the federal regulatory process. In 2009 alone, the federal government finalized over 3,000 new rules and regulations. Of that number, 78 rules were classified as major because of their substantial impact on the American economy. With similar numbers of rules being finalized in prior years, the escalating number and complexity of regulations is cause for concern.

The cost of complying with federal regulation falls disproportionately on small and medium sized businesses in the form of increased paperwork, time, and labor. For example, MAG spends hundreds of thousands of dollars per year on meeting their tax compliance obligations, which represents the most expensive paperwork burden that the federal government imposes on small to medium sized businesses.

The REINS Act would require Congress to approve any new major rule proposed by the executive agencies before it could be enforced on the American people. While the Constitution places all legislative powers to the legislative branch, Congress routinely passes that responsibility on to the executive branch. Unfortunately, decades of delegations have provided executive agencies with a considerable legislative capacity of their own.



Rather than repealing ill-conceived rules after they are already finalized, the REINS Act effectively constrains the delegation of Congressional authority by limiting the size and scope of rule-making. Once major rules are drafted, the act requires that they be approved by both bodies in Congress and signed by the President, satisfying the bicameralism and presentment requirements of the Constitution.

With executive agencies considering sweeping regulations from health care and the environment to energy and labor, the REINS Act would ensure that Congress is accountable to the public for regulations that significantly impact their daily lives and business operations.

Again, thank you for introducing this legislation, and we look forward to working with you on this issue during the 111th Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Daniel Janka'.

Daniel Janka
President, MAG